

In response to that Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 45-52 and 54, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 53, 55, and 56 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

53. (Amended) An image reading apparatus including an illuminating device adapted to illuminate an original and a photoelectric converting device adapted to effect photoelectric conversion on the light from the original, the illuminating device including a light conductive member for receiving light, the light conductive member comprising:

a light entrance face provided in at least a part of a first side that forms a longitudinal lateral face of a rod-shaped translucent member;

a first light reflecting and/or diffusing area provided on a second side opposed to said light entrance face and inclined relative to a light axis of the received light, said first light reflecting and/or diffusing area being adapted to reflect and/or diffuse the entering light within the translucent member;

a light exit area adapted to emit at least a part of the light to the outside of the translucent member; and

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a second light reflecting and/or diffusing area provided on the first side, said second light reflecting and/or diffusing area being adapted to reflect and/or diffuse the light to said light exit area and inclined with respect to a longitudinal axis of the translucent member.

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55. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 53, further comprising a light source that includes an LED.

56. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 53, further comprising a light source that includes a plurality of light-emitting elements, each light-emitting element having different light emission wavelength ranges.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 28, 2002. Claims 53 and 55-58 are presented for examination. Claims 45-52 and 54 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 53, 55, and 56 have been amended to define more clearly what Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 53 is in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 45-58 were rejected for non-statutory double-patenting over claims 45-51 of U.S. Patent No. 6,015,200 (Ogura).

As an initial matter, the cancellation of Claims 45-52 and 54 renders the rejections of these claims moot.